

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/438,590

Examiner

Jennifer Liversedge

Applicant(s)

CONCANNON ET AL.

Art Unit

3692

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 1/11/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-13.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

This Office Action is in response to Applicant's response filed on January 11, 2007.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-13 are allowed. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art fails to teach or suggest the limitations of the independent claims.

Independent claim 1 discloses a system for processing funds transfer transactions from a customer of a financial institution wherein the system comprises a first processor which receives a bulk file containing a plurality of funds transfer transactions and determines which of the transactions are foreign exchange transactions, and grouping foreign exchange transactions and transactions not requiring foreign exchange transactions, and sub-grouping the foreign exchange transactions into sub-groups based on currency. Subsequent processors transmit transactions to the processor of another financial institution and a trading processor receives the sub-groups of foreign exchange funds transfer transactions and executes the foreign exchange operation for the groups which are based on the currency. Dependent claims 2-5 are allowable as they follow from the allowable independent claim 1.

Independent claim 6 discloses a method for processing funds transfer transactions from a customer of a financial institution wherein the system comprises a

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first processor which receives a bulk file containing a plurality of funds transfer transactions and determines which of the transactions are foreign exchange transactions, and grouping foreign exchange transactions and transactions not requiring foreign exchange transactions, and sub-grouping the foreign exchange transactions into sub-groups based on currency. Subsequent processors transmit transactions to the processor of another financial institution and a trading processor receives the sub-groups of foreign exchange funds transfer transactions and executes the foreign exchange operation for the groups which are based on currency. Dependent claims 7-13 are allowable as they follow from the allowable independent claim 6.

The primary difference between the claimed invention and the prior art is the grouping of the foreign exchange transactions into sub-groups based on currency.

While the prior art discloses the receipt of batch files, containing both transactions requiring a foreign exchange and those not requiring a foreign exchange and for which the transactions requiring a foreign exchange are forwarded to a foreign exchange trade server for execution (U.S. Patent No. 5,787,402 to Potter et al.), the prior art does not disclose the grouping of the foreign exchange transactions into sub-groups based on currency.

Further, prior art discloses the authorizing of transactions by which transactions can be grouped by currency (U.S. Patent No. 6,058,378 to Clark et al.). However, this grouping is for the purposes of list-generation and review, and not value transfer by means of foreign exchange transactions in which sub-groups are formed based on currency.

Additionally, prior art discloses the a currency foreign exchange module in which a packet assembler and packer disassembler for transferring transaction between banks and clearing houses (U.S. Patent No. 5,465,206 to Hilt et al.). This prior art further discloses where accounts might contain multiple accounts wherein the banks settle a variety of currencies. However, the prior art does not disclose the grouping of the foreign exchange transactions into sub-groups based on currency.

Prior art also discloses the batching of transactions, which may involve foreign exchange requirements, for settlement to be performed at the end of a period of time, such as daily (U.S. Patent No. 5,825,003 to Jennings et al.). However, the prior art does not disclose where the settlement transactions are grouped based on sub-groups according to currency but rather speak to transactions being performed based on the interacting financial institutions.

Non-patent literature also speaks to batch processing of transactions involving multiple currencies and foreign exchange, but does not disclose where the batching involves grouping of the foreign exchange transactions into sub-groups based on currency (Inside the State Street Machine by Robert Teitelman).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Jennifer Liversedge whose telephone number is 571-272-3167. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday – Friday, 8:30 – 5 PM.

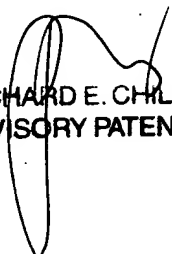
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Chilcot can be reached at 571-272-6777. The fax number for the organization where the application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Jennifer Liversedge

Examiner

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RICHARD E. CHILCOT, JR.
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER